

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY


PCT

REC'D 21 DEC 2005

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference PF040009		FOR FURTHER ACTION		See Form PCT/IPEA/416
International application No. PCT/EP2005/050023		International filing date (day/month/year) 04.01.2005	Priority date (day/month/year) 06.01.2004	
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC G06F17/30				
Applicant THOMSON LICENSING SA et al.				
<p>1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of 6 sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p>3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:</p> <p>a. <input type="checkbox"/> sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau) a total of sheets, as follows:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis of this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.</p> <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> (sent to the International Bureau only) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) , containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).</p>				
<p>4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I Basis of the opinion</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II Priority</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI Certain documents cited</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application</p>				
Date of submission of the demand 04.11.2005		Date of completion of this report 13.12.2005		
Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority:  European Patent Office - Gitschiner Str. 103 D-10958 Berlin Tel. +49 30 25901 - 0 Fax: +49 30 25901 - 840		Authorized Officer Stauch, M Telephone No. +49 30 25901-657		



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International application No.
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Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the **language**, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
- ☐ This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language , which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:
- ☐ international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b))
 - ☐ publication of the international application (under Rule 12.4)
 - ☐ international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3)
2. With regard to the **elements*** of the international application, this report is based on *(replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report):*

Description, Pages

1-10 as originally filed

Claims, Numbers

1-8 as originally filed

Drawings, Sheets

1/2-2/2 as originally filed

☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) - see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing

3. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:
- ☐ the description, pages
 - ☐ the claims, Nos.
 - ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs
 - ☐ the sequence listing *(specify):*
 - ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing *(specify):*
4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).
- ☐ the description, pages
 - ☐ the claims, Nos.
 - ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs
 - ☐ the sequence listing *(specify):*
 - ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing *(specify):*

* If item 4 applies, some or all of these sheets may be marked "superseded."

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Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Yes: Claims	
	No: Claims	1-8
Inventive step (IS)	Yes: Claims	
	No: Claims	1-8
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes: Claims	1-8
	No: Claims	

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7):

see separate sheet

Re Item V.

1 Reference is made to the following documents:

D1 : MASUMITSU K ET AL: "Meta-data framework for constructing individualized video digest" PROCEEDINGS OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON IMAGE PROCESSING. ICIP 2001, 7 October 2001 (2001-10-07), - 10 October 2001 (2001-10-10) pages 390-393, XP010563365 THESSALONIKI, GREECE ISBN: 0-7803-6725-1

D2 : MASUMITSU K ET AL: "Video summarization using reinforcement learning in eigenspace" PROCEEDINGS OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON IMAGE PROCESSING. ICIP 2001, vol. 2, 10 September 2000 (2000-09-10), - 10 October 2001 (2001-10-10) pages 267-270, XP010529975 THESSALONIKI, GREECE

D3: KWAN W ET AL: "An intelligent agent for multimedia" CANADIAN CONFERENCE ON ELECTRICAL AND COMPUTER ENGINEERING, 5 September 1995 (1995-09-05), - 10 October 2001 (2001-10-10) pages 594-597, XP010193748 MONTREAL, CANADA ISBN: 0-7803-2766-7

2 The present application does not meet the criteria of Article 33(1) PCT, because the subject-matter of claims 1 and 8 is not new in the sense of Article 33(2) PCT:

2.1 Document D1 discloses (the references in parentheses applying to this document):
Device for creating summaries of multimedia documents (abstract, lines 1 to 2) **comprising a storage means and means enabling a user to view a multimedia document** (implicit in the abstract),
characterized in that it comprises
- means of automatically weighting multimedia documents stored on the storage means ("the importance score of an image sequence can be calculated" - abstract lines 7 to 10 - this clearly discloses a means for automatically weighting - using a score - multimedia contents, hence documents, which are implicitly stored on a storage means) **according to the frequency with which the different stored documents are viewed by said user** (according to the abstract the score attributed is derived from a user profile)

and from content profiles; the use of the frequency of visualization is clarified on page 392, left-hand column, lines 31 to 40: when - hence every time as indicated by the formula - a user views a video segment the corresponding content profile is refined using the user profile; therefore the content profile is changed according to the frequency with which the document is viewed by the user; thus the importance score depends upon the frequency with which the document is viewed by the user; and thus we have

- means of automatically weighting documents according to the frequency with which the different documents are viewed by the user; moreover this feature is well-known in the field of user-profiles - the most basic version of a user profile is based on frequency of access to contents of a certain type in the past - refer also to D3, page 595, left-hand column, lines 6 to 10),
- **means of creating a summary of the multimedia documents stored on the storage means according to the weighting assigned to each multimedia document** (abstract, lines 10 to 14).

These are all the features of independent claim 1, it follows that the subject-matter of independent claim 1 is not novel.

2.2 Independent claim 8 describes a method with features that correspond to those of the system of independent claim 1. It follows that independent claim 8 is not novel for the same reasons as given above for independent claim 1.

3 Dependent claims 2-7 do not contain any features which, in combination with the features of any claim to which they refer, meet the requirements of the PCT in respect of novelty (Article 33(2) PCT), the subject-matter of said dependent claims being disclosed in document D1 (refer to the references to this document provided below). D1 discloses that:

- a summary is only created for the documents for which the weighting coefficient is greater than a predefined threshold (claim 2 - disclosed in the abstract, lines 10 to 14)
- the documents are weighted according to their type (claim 3 - disclosed in "predefined keywords" in the abstract and in "similar content" on page 391,

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- right-hand column lines 18 to 21)
- the documents are divided in scenes and scenes are weighted (claim 4 - disclosed on page 391, left-hand column, lines 4 to 6)
 - the summary is created according to the weighting assigned to the scenes (claim 5 - disclosed on page 391, left-hand column, lines 25 to 30)
 - the duration of the summary is adapted according to the weighting assigned to each document and to each scene (claim 6 - page 291, left-hand column, lines 25 to 30 and figure 1 implicitly disclose this possibility; note moreover that the relation of weighting and duration is well known in the field - refer to D2, page 269, left-hand column, lines 7 to 12)
 - the summaries are stored in storing means (claim 7 - this is implicit on page 391, left-hand column, lines 25 to 30: a summary is created, it must accordingly be stored somewhere)